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BREEDING, REARING AND CULTURE OF THE SILK WORMS.

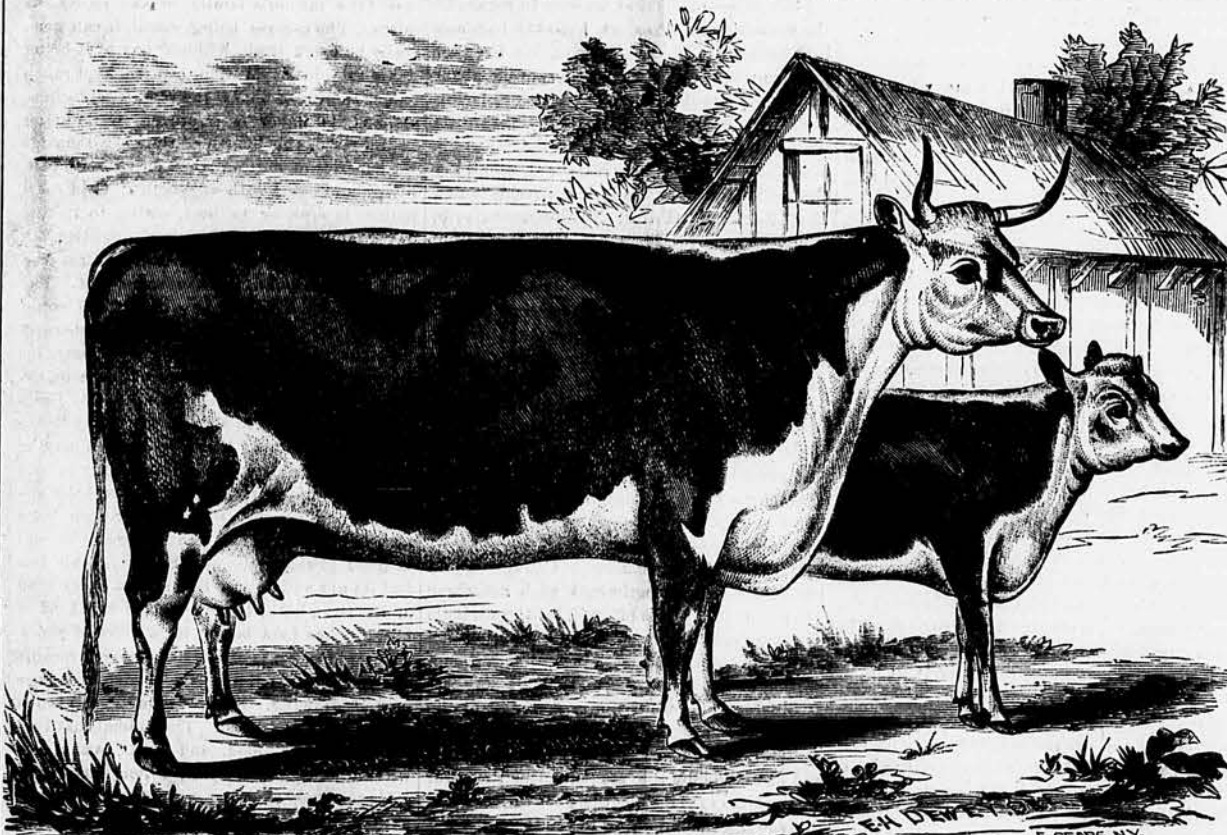
BY S. CROZIER, SILKVILLE, KANSAS.

The following extract is taken from a pamphlet having the above title and is published by permission of the author who cannot at this season find leisure to finish the series of articles begun in issue of Dec. 29th, 1875.

HATCHING.

In all climates the time of hatching the eggs depends on the vegetation of the mulberry tree. In Ardeche, for instance, they wait till the leaf is at least the size of a silver half dollar, because there the weather in May is usually cool and damp, some times even cold during the whole month, and the leaves grow slowly. I have often seen the buds open in April, or even in March, yet the berries green as late as June and the leaf not fully formed as it needed to be to finish the breeding (or near the end of the breeding). There then (in Ardeche) is no use for hurry, for the worms grow faster than the leaves, except in rare years, when fair weather keeps fixed, in which extraordinary results are obtained, as aforesaid. Kansas enjoys that rare advantage of having that temperature every year. Whether sooner or later, as soon as the buds are seen to commence swelling, the eggs must be removed from the cellar and put in a room, kept to the out-door temperature. The same cause which makes flowers and grass come up, will hatch your Silk-worms in the most safe and natural way. Be careful from the very start of the breeding that the temperature never descends too low during the night; to prevent it put some wood in the stove before you go to bed, or, if more convenient, put the eggs in a basket on a white cloth, wrap a blanket around the basket and put between the blanket and the basket three or four bottles full of very hot water, renewing the water in the morning till the warmth of the day makes itself felt again.

Wherever the mulberry thrives, it is possible to raise Silk-worms successfully, but it requires considerable more labor, expense and knowledge in cold and damp countries than in those having a temperature like ours. I shall therefore not speak of the various methods of hatching of several countries visited by me both in Europe and Asia. Remember well this: As soon as your eggs are set to hatching, whether it be by natural heat or artificial means, keep them always between 75 and 80 degrees Fahrenheit. Experience will show you that it is an easy thing. Last spring I let my eggs hatch in my room, through which the kitchen stove-pipe passes. In day time, about 3 or 4 o'clock p. m., the thermometer rose often to 85, near the morning it went down to 70; this was too much variation. I tempered this simply by putting some fire in the stove during the night. The heat of the pipe sufficed to preserve a moderate degree of 75 to 78, and the crop proved to be a splendid one. For part of the eggs, which were farther back than the rest, I used the system of the bottles to push them forward, and the thermometer never varied one degree by changing my four bottles three times a day; the first from 6 to 10 o'clock in the evening, the second from 10 in the night to 4, often 8, in the morning and from this last time till evening,



A PURE BRED HEREFORD COW AND CALF.

owing to the warmth of the day, being exactly the same as the one I had given in the night. These produced a fair crop, too; the worms hatching in three days. Finally another part hatched without any care, at the natural temperature, and the cocoons were just as fine as the others, but they were eight days later than the rest. It is then best to help nature a little, particularly on the start, and during the course of the breeding, too, if a sudden, extraordinary cold should come on, rather than to trust the weather to do the work. The expected good will arrive so quick, and the pains to take are so little, that one would be very sorry to lose a crop, or part of it, just from neglect, even if it were but once in ten years. To keep the eggs in an apartment directly under the roof in the day time, and in the bed with you during the night, is a means used successfully in such latitudes as ours.

When the eggs are on the point of hatching, they undergo a marked change of color, they pass from dark lilac to ashy lilac, and become quite white when the worm is out.

IMPORTANT OBSERVATIONS.

Before going farther, I must give you a few notions intended to explain a good many things, which you would understand with difficulty, or otherwise would want long and tedious explanations.

They count five different ages in the life of Silk-worms, from the hatching, according to the number of times they change their skin. These ages, too, are termed moulting, or sleep. The Silk-worms are equally said to be on the 1st, 2d, 3d, and 4th moulting, as well as to sleep for the 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th time.

The first age takes place between the hatching and the first moulting; the second between the first moulting and the second; the third from the second to the third moulting; the fourth from the third to the fourth moulting, and the fifth and last extends from the fourth moulting to the "going up" or spinning of cocoons.

Nature gave the worm the faculty of spinning the solid cocoon, in which it wraps itself, and of which man makes such luxurious use, against all dangers that might hurt it as soon as it is transformed into a chrysalis, a state of insensibility which it preserves from 8 to 20 days, according to breed and climate, before it emerges as a moth. The heats or other branches disposed in cells, on which the worms climb to make their cocoons, imparted to that last moulting the name of "going up" (ascend).

One precious thing is, that the time which is to extend between the hatching and the "going up," depends entirely on your own will. The age of Silk-worms is counted by the number of meals they have eaten, and not by the days spent from their birth. They eat more or less, in proportion to the degree of activity imparted to them by the heat. At a cold temperature they are benumbed, and eat scarcely any. Hence that essential rule: In warm weather feed frequently. The more

rapid the breeding, the sooner one is freed of the cares inherent to that particular industry. Some leading breeders made an axiom out of the following by-word: Give fire, air and leaf. Here in Kansas we will say: Climate furnishes you with air and heat, feed often; as the heat increases, give more air, too. For the reasons given above, it is easy to bring to evenness a party of worms which took 3 or 4 days to hatch. You must separate day after day successively the worms as they hatch, making as many divisions as they take days to hatch. Then take the first hatched and put them in a roomless warm than that where the others are, and feed them only twice or three times a day; meanwhile feed the others five or six times a day, till the second hatched overtake the first. They (the second) then join the first in the cool room, and are fed like them but twice or three times a day, till the 3d, 4th, etc., pushed forward by warmth and numerous meals, come and join them successively, when they all may be treated together at the regular allowance, both of food and warmth. They should all go through the moulting at the same time.

HATCHING—TAKING UP THE SILK-WORMS.

When the eggs have changed color, and from violet have passed to light blue or an ashy color, according to the breed, they will soon hatch and need watching. Silk-worms usually hatch from 8 to 8 o'clock in the morning, and the taking up is to be done in one out of two ways, as the seed is loose or sticks to cloth, pasteboard or paper.

If the seed is loose, spread it evenly on a cloth in a box; stretch above a sheet of tulle or perforated paper, to prevent the eggs from sticking to the leaves, and being lifted with the worms. Near 5 or 6 o'clock in the morning, if you see some hatched worms, lay softly on them (instead of loose leaves) whole young twigs, spacing them more or less to suit the quantity hatched. With these twigs, bearing two or three leaves, it is a great deal easier to move the minute and tender insects on the paper sheet, where they are to grow till the first age.

At about 8 o'clock, or earlier if the leaves have been rapidly covered with worms, the twigs, one by one, are taken up softly and put regularly spaced on a newspaper, or any other clean sheet of paper, taking care to leave a broad margin, for they grow very fast, and after every meal want more room. If there are worms left yet on the cloth, renew the leaves and take it up in the same way, before you give a second meal to the first, in order to keep them perfectly even. When the last hatched have eaten their meal (of twigs), or better still, after the second taking up, leaves are chopped like coarse smoking tobacco, using a strictly clean and sharp knife, preserved expressly for that special use, and feed them to both parties together.

That paper or box, where you have just fed them, is then labeled No. 1 first day. Those

hatched the next day will be marked No. 2, etc., to the end. According to the amount of care bestowed on the preservation of the eggs, they will all hatch in two and three and eight days, and always in the morning. Those coming out at night or in the evening, are but few, and as well be taken up or let alone to wait for the others.

Breeders like to hatch a few a couple of weeks in advance of the whole bulk, in order to test the quality of the seed.

(To be continued)

Written Expressly for the Kansas Farmer.

HOW TO MAKE MONEY FARMING.

NUMBER II.

In a former article, I described the kind of a location to select for making a valuable home, and presuming that it is wild land, and to be transformed into an improved farm, with an outlay of capital and labor, that will show economy, and, at the same time, create improvements that will be both durable and valuable, I will now proceed to give some hints that may be of use to those making improvements upon their farms.

In the first place, map out your land just as you want it, marking on paper every field, the location of every fence, the orchard, feed lots, etc., etc. Then have a surveyor run the lines, so that there will never be any controversy about division fences, or litigations arising from their position.

Break your hedge rows good and wide, so as to admit of thorough cultivation on each side, plowing a strip wherever you may expect to have a fence of any kind, unless it should be stone. Where stone is convenient, a good stone wall 4½ feet in height, 30 inches wide at the base, and well built, is, in the end, the best and cheapest fence a man can have on a farm; but where this is inconvenient, a well grown hedge is my next choice. I have tried post and wire, and also post and rail fences, as a temporary protection till hedges could be grown inside, and have discarded both as worthless. I would recommend for all outside fences, one made of posts and pine boards. Three boards will turn cattle and horses, and four boards will turn hogs and sheep.

By using the best quality of pine fencing for the outside enclosures, and immediately planting hedges inside wherever a permanent fence is wanted, by proper attention for three years, the outside fence may be removed, and used for all the purposes for which rough lumber is wanted, and is worth almost its original cost for building stables, cribs, sheds, stock lots, etc.

plowed a hedge row once in September without subsoiling, and I thought the sod never would rot. It was knocked about like an old boot for years before we could get it subdued. The ground for hedge plants can not be in too good condition at the time of setting, and for this reason I recommend plowing as above.

While upon the subject of preparing ground for a hedge, I will say, that a yard where the dwelling stands, should be thoroughly plowed before setting out trees or shrubbery of any kind, and that a failure to give heed to this injunction by planting your maples, elms, etc., in the unbroken sod, will result in vexation, disappointment, and in the end serious loss. I have seen it tried, and I know from experience and observation that the ground where forest trees are to stand, should be as thoroughly prepared as for an orchard.

"But," says the objector, "who wants to be tramping over the plowed ground, every time he leaves the door-step?"

In reply to this I would say, that good walks can be made wherever needed much easier than trees can be made to grow in unbroken sod, besides the yard can soon be seeded to tame grass, which, by a little care, need not be allowed to encroach upon the growing trees and shrubs.

PROGRESSIVE AGRICULTURE AND PAYING FARMING.

We find in the *New Era* the following excellent article from the pen of Mr. Vanatta:

"Any system of farm management that is not progressive for a series of years, cannot pay; also that management that pays by increasing the productivity of the farm is most certainly progressive. And we repeat that increasing the value of the farm, buildings, surroundings and animals, is the only true index of successful farming. Raising large crops and impoverishing our farms may pay while our soil is new and the land rich, mellow and clean; but the final result will be disastrous just in proportion to what amount of available matter we draw from the soil in excess of what we return, or mechanically or chemically make available.

To determine whether our farming is paying, we must compute the farm, buildings, fences, taxes, etc., as so much capital invested, and then we can correctly conclude that our system is correct or defective. Many a farmer fails by not adapting his farm to its particular uses, or in selecting stock not calculated for such land, for instance trying to raise grain or fruit on a wet soil, instead of stock, etc.

Another reason why farming pays no better is that agriculture is not considered an honorable pursuit, that the mental faculties are of a necessarily low and grovelling. Before farming can pay, such ideas must be erased from the mind. The idea instilled that agriculture is not merely a means of securing a meagre subsistence, but also enables us to cultivate our moral, social and intellectual powers; that it is not to reduce us to mere machines, toiling to gratify our appetites, but to elevate and refine to the highest point all the better faculties of our nature.

When our sons find that agriculture is an intellectual pursuit; when they learn by their investigations that all the processes on the farm should be governed by skillful rules and positive knowledge, their respect for their parent's calling increases. They learn that the breeding of stock successfully requires a knowledge of the laws of life both animal and vegetable. They see that all things have an adequate cause, that to grow animals intelligently their structure and functions must be understood; that the food must be adapted for the purpose intended, that the food that will fatten will not build up bone and muscle; that the animal being complex the food must vary; that to build up a certain element of an animal requires exactly the same elements in the food; that the animal creates no new elements, but simply appropriates what it finds in the food to its own uses. Also that plants do the same thing by appropriating to their uses just such food as is necessary to bring it to perfection; that if proper food is not in the soil the plant will die or remain sickly; that all the elements of a crop must be present in a soluble and assimilable condition, or failure will result; that plants must be fed as well as animals.

A few evenings' study will also show that Architecture and Landscape gardening may as well be applied in the country as in the city. After such study and investigation they will not leave agriculture for any other occupation, on the score of dignity or respectability.

ty, for they will see that agriculture needs more scientific knowledge than either of the many other pursuits.

This we believe will be the best cure for that false idea of farmers' sons flying from their father's occupation; place within their reach such works on agriculture as they need, and spend a short time in pleasant conversation on kindred subjects relating to the farm, and the result will be a higher degree of love of home than ever.

Again, the farmer must consume the productions of his farm to receive the greatest benefit from his soil: must practice a mixed husbandry, have a judicious rotation of crops, the general management must be skillful, or all will result in failure. It is our aim to aid practical men to begin correctly and then success is certain.

Finally, when our soils have been under-drained as they ought to be, improved in fertility by manuring and more thorough pulverization; when we have learned to turn our grain into meat; when our families are better fed, better clothed and better educated; when our homes are made more cheerful and beautiful—then, and not until then, can we call our system of agriculture, progressive and a system that will make farming pay.

We believe the work is already begun, and we are satisfied if our mite may aid some one in determining what to do and how to do it.

JOHN VANATTA.

Nortonville, Kan., Oct. 29, 1875.

For the Kansas Farmer.

ORCHARDS.

NUMBER II.

After my explanation on the planting of fruit trees, I will now explain the reason why all this work must be done in that way:

1st. A layer of stones or brick at the bottom of the hole facilitates the draining of the superabundant quantity of water. This is eminently necessary for the future success of the tree. This layer also prevents the roots from penetrating deeper into the bad subsoil.

2d. The top soil is put on the layers of stone or brick, exactly under the roots of the tree, because we will never more be able to put there any compost or fertile soil, and the good influence of the air will hardly ever be felt there.

3d. Between and on the top of the roots, we put the compost or rotted manure, for the reason that the small roots or fibres are to be found there, and the compost assures their growth, and thereby that of the tree.

4th. At last the soil of the second digging is put on the top soil because, being less fertile, it is easy to enrich it by a top application of manure; the roots also won't come up to feed themselves on the bad soil, when they have all the nutrient and good soil below.

There is another important point to be observed in planting trees, and one which is generally neglected. It is the pruning of the roots. We know that an equilibrium must exist between the roots and the branches; it is a very important point. Before planting a tree it is necessary to prune the roots according to the branches, or the branches according to the roots, which is more general.

For instance—and let this be taken for a basis—is the tree has been taken out with great care and the roots are all in good order, little pruning of the branches will be necessary, because the thrifty growth of a tree depends on the quantity of its leaves, the proof whereof was given us last spring when the grasshoppers stripped the fruit trees of their leaves, whereby a great many trees suffered or died. Now the more small branches or twigs we can keep on the tree the more certain its growth will be; but the roots must be in accordance, for they must be able to supply the necessary sap.

If, as is usually done, the trees have been taken up without care, so that part of the big roots are cut short, and most of the small roots pulled off or dried out by a long transportation, we must consequently cut off all the damaged roots and fibres. This shortens them a great deal, and for that reason the branches have to be trimmed accordingly. Those branches must always be cut above a small branch or twig, which will draw the sap up more easily. For what concerns the roots, the big ones must always be kept as long as possible, and where they have been cut by the spade, the wound must be refreshed with a sharp knife and cut level on the under part of the roots, so as to make the cut rest on the soil. The roots which have a straight downward growing should partly be cut, so as to force the rootlets to grow horizontally.

The very small roots or fibres must be cut very short or entirely off if they are spoiled or dry, which happens quickly if kept too long from planting. If the hairy roots or fibres should be fresh and sound, keep them on, for they help the most to the re-growing of the trees. This is the reason that a tree taken up and transplanted immediately, suffers hardly any by the transplanting. All roots, dried or wounded, must be cut off until the sound part is reached.

G. B.

Leavenworth, Kan., Jan. 15, 1876.

WISCONSIN.

The State Grange met at Milwaukee, January 5th. J. H. Osborne, was elected master, E. H. Berton, Overseer.

Mr. Osborne, is one of the present board of railroad commissioners of the State.

Resolutions were adopted for a law to limit national banks to 6 per cent. and for the repeal of the act increasing the rate on transient printed matter, seeds, merchandise, etc.

GRAPE CULTURE.

BY A. M. BURNS.

THE SOIL.

We have not seen any soil in Kansas that would not grow grapes. Grapes have succeeded in so many different kinds of soils, that vinyardists are not agreed as to what kinds of soil is best suited for the grape. It may I think be stated as a safe rule that any soil that will grow good peaches or produce a good crop of corn, wheat or potatoes is adapted to the growing of grapes of the proper variety.

I cannot speak from experience about growing grapes on wet soils, but all grape growers who have planted grape vines below springs or in wet soil warn the novice not to plant in wet ground unless he drains it. It is said that running water does not effect the roots of the vine, yet it is a historical fact that one of the largest vines in the country grows in a swamp in N. J. but the "surroundings" of the root is not known, there may be no stagnant water around the roots. At any rate I would not consider it a safe example to follow in practice as "exceptions" are not general rules.

The great trouble with too many has been heretofore, that they followed the advice of Eastern and foreign grape growers and tried to grow grapes in the West by Eastern mode instead of experimenting to ascertain the best Western method.

The best soil that I have found for growing market grapes was on the (formerly) timbered land of the Big Blue Valley, even among large stumps. One great advantage besides large crops in planting in such soil, is that it requires very little labor to prepare the soil, it being so porous that the vine penetrates deep into the earth, yet some roots will keep near the surface. Every reader must have noticed that along the creek and river bottoms there are thickets of wild vines, and that the most healthy grow in porous soil, generally somewhat sandy, but I have had good results on the second bench of prairie land where the soil was rich. On the high land prairie soil they grow well, but don't grow as rampant as on the timbered land of the river bottoms. In the "pursuit of knowledge under difficulties" I have dug down seven feet on the river bottom, following the root and found it nearly as large at that distance as it was one foot from the collar. I have often regretted that I did not cut the root and count the growth. The calcareous soil of the bluffs is much better adapted to growing grapes for wines than the rich alluvial soil of the river and creek bottoms, and here is where wine grapes ought to be grown, provided the people must and will have a stimulant.

The soil on our poor looking now useless bluffs, is the soil on which to grow grapes for wine to be dispensed in the sick chamber. For such purposes the soil ought to be dry, rich, porous, light and calcareous. If grown for market or domestic use, then quantity of an agreeable or pleasant flavor is more desirable than high saccharine qualities. To attain the latter properties then a rich soil, a heavy or clay soil, drained if not naturally so, well cultivated and highly manured is desirable. For fear I forget I may as well say here that when the soil is too poor to grow an abundance of grapes, and manure is required, always apply it to the surface, never mix it with soil so that the sponge-like (tender growing points of the roots) will touch or come in contact with the manure, which ought always to be well decomposed. The rain will wash the soluble parts of the manure down as soon as is desirable. We will next consider

THE SITUATION

for vines. Much stress is laid upon the situation of a vineyard by Northern and Eastern writers, it doubtless has some influence. High situations as a general rule are less liable to late vernal frosts than low ground. Since 1860 when my vines first fruited in Kansas, we have had but two late spring frosts that destroyed the young wood on the vines. Both frosts occurred about the 10th or 12th of May. I saved some of the vines by laying them on the ground (in the very cold evenings) and covering them with wheat straw; but on the second bench I suppose about two hundred feet above the river bottom vines, I could not see that the vines had escaped the injurious effects of the late spring frost any more than those on the rich river bottom wood land, but both of these frosts were very severe. While on the other hand during other years I have noticed that beans and other tender vegetables were exempt from the immunities of the frost in the same row when four or five feet higher than those entirely destroyed by the frost. If I had made no other observations these would have satisfied me that elevation has at least sometimes something to do with the effects of late vernal frosts on vegetables or plants.

Has the climate any influence on our late spring frosts? Is a query, to which I can give no answer, but we do know that our country some few seasons has been injured by late spring frosts, but not more any other State and if vines are more liable to injury from spring frosts on low ground, then it would be advisable to plant vines on high land where there is a choice between low and elevated land; but as to a preference of a Southern exposure over a Northern, Eastern or Western exposure, so far as heat to ripen the grapes is concerned, I cannot see any advantage within the limits of the State of Kansas.

The meteorological reports show that there is only one or two States that possesses any advantage over Kansas so far as concerns the ripening of the grape. Therefore the principal object in selecting an elevated piece of ground would be freedom from the immu-

ties of our spring frosts when the growth of the grape had advanced.

There is no question but that the cold air or frost is more severe in narrow valleys or ravines than it is in broad valleys or low broad plains. Scientific experiments has demonstrated that in narrow valleys or hollows the cold air settles down and creates several degrees of a lower temperature than is to be found on the sides of the adjacent hills, then again the rich soil of the valleys produces a more succulent growth than is found on a less fertile soil, more elevated, where the sun's rays strike with less force at first. The sudden thawing of the vines effects them more injuriously than a gradual thaw. In the low land the sun does not strike the vines as soon as on the side or hill top, therefore its reflection is more powerful when it is cast on the low land suddenly and the wood being more succulent than on hill sides the injury is greater, because the sun's rays strike suddenly with great force.

I cannot speak from experience in regard to the protection of vines, as I never had any that were not protected by trees, but I regard them as useful nor can I say anything about a Western aspect as I have no vines facing the setting sun, but experienced vinyardists condemn a Western exposure. So far as my observation extends in Kansas I would say that hill sides along the largest streams facing East, South, Southwest, Northeast or North, would be good locations. If it is possible to protect the vines from the cold winds of winter and let the air circulate freely among them in summer, it would I think be a great benefit. But if the farmer, laborer, mechanic, or any other class of people have no choice of a situation, then plant anywhere. The frosts will not destroy your young shoots every spring and if you have but a dozen or one hundred vines you can lay them down on the ground and cover them with hay, straw, quilts, blankets, carpets or any thing else when you observe on any evening that there will be a frost that night.

If the State Agricultural College would commence such experiments with not alone grapes but all species of fruit, let the students practice grafting, preparing soil, planting etc. and that too in different kinds of soil, then a portion of the fruit trees and plants set apart at different stages of the season and of the growth of several years for examination. Scrape the dirt away carefully from the roots and examined by the students, the Professor all the time explaining the growth from callus, spongy and on up to the roots. A record of these and other experiments, such as planting in the light or dark of the moon etc. etc. and continued for a series of years until this and dozens of similar questions were settled. These experiments published in the KANSAS FARMER, would be worth a thousand fold more to the State than all the money derived from the sale of trees and plants. The young horticulturist would leave the State College practical, scientific fruit growers. Think of the influence they would exert in the State, the benefits could not be enumerated, but as the regents now manage the horticultural department, we find some of their students at least, know nothing comparatively of the laws governing plant growth. Then again the professor of Horticulture who has enough to do if he instructs his class, would be relieved from acting as commercial agent for the nursery of the State, and the State relieved from the odium of having a commercial nursery, and the young men would go from the State College science horticulturists, who would exercise an influence in horticultural pursuits that cannot be estimated in dollars and cents.

Manhattan, Kansas.

POINTS IN FAVOR OF SHEEP.

A Spanish proverb says: "Sheep have golden feet, and wherever the print of them appears the soil is turned into gold." The history of farming in every country in the world shows that the raising of sheep has an important connection with keeping up the fertility of the soil. For reclaiming a worn-out farm there is no stock so good as sheep. The manure they make is seldom reckoned among the profits of sheep husbandry, but it is in reality one of the chief sources of income. Most farmers realize this who have abandoned sheep raising at times when wool and mutton ruled low. Sheep are vegetable scavengers. They will eat and digest a very large number of plants that horses and cattle will never touch. They will make a very comfortable living on little more than the leaves of bushes. As a rule, one sheep may be kept to every cow and horse in a pasture without detriment to the feed these larger animals consume. Such is their desire for a variety of food that they will often leave grass to feed on the leaves of bushes and weeds. Sheep will search higher and lower for feed than horses or cattle. They are the last to leave the pastures in the fall, and the first to return to them in the spring. For seven or more years of its life a sheep will yield a fleece equal in value to the body from which it was taken. During all this time the increase in number will pay for the keeping. The difference between the price of wool at the place where it is shorn and where it is marketed is less than for any article produced on a farm, with the exception of cheese. If the price does not meet a grower's views when it is taken off it may be stored a year at 1 per cent. of its value, and it is quite sure to increase that amount in weight. In all old countries where agriculture has made the greatest advance, sheep-raising has constantly grown in importance. During the past hundred years

the number of sheep in Great Britain has doubled, while the price of wool has doubled, and the price of mutton has more than quadrupled. This has been the case, notwithstanding the fact that wool is now so cheaply produced in Australia, South Africa, and other countries under English rule. No branch of farming in Great Britain is in a more prosperous condition than the production of wool and mutton. The demand for mutton always increases as a community increases in age and wealth. Old butchers in this city state that the demand for mutton, as compared with beef, increases every year. At present mutton retails at a higher price than beef. As to spring lamb, it is a dainty that always commands a fancy price. A farmer who has the conveniences for raising very early lambs has a source of income superior to anything involving the same amount of capital. In this, as almost everything dependent on the season, the earlier in the season the higher the price. Sheep are the best adapted to furnishing meat for a farmer's family of any animal he raises. The carcass being small, it can generally be eaten fresh, without any of it being liable to injury. Mutton can be kept much longer than beef under the same circumstances, and its flavor is improved by its being kept a reasonable length of time. No meat is the superior of mutton when cured with salt, boiled, and eaten with vegetables. Cold roast mutton is superior to beef, owing to its fine flavor and excellent keeping qualities. A nice mutton chop is the finest breakfast dish that can be found for the same cost. The health and the bill of fare of farmers would both be better if fresh mutton more generally took the place of salt pork. It is easy for farmers to provide themselves with a constant supply of this most delicious meat. By keeping a few wethers in a small pasture by themselves, and grazing them, an animal may be ready to slaughter at any time. Any farmer can learn to properly dress sheep, and the operation requires no appliances. Sheep pelts always bring cash, and can generally be sold at good prices at home. Sheep-raising has had its ups and downs like almost every kind of business, but it is a question if any kind of business has paid better for a series of years. The rapid increase of sheep is very favorable to farmers of small means who wish to engage in wool growing. Sheep-raising is too much neglected in the West. The animal that furnishes clothing, food, and light, which eats what other animals reject, which crops hill-sides too steep for other animals to ascend, is entitled to vastly more credit than it receives.—Chicago Times.

SHEEP—THEIR BREEDS.

The Leicester are usually placed at the head of the long wool breeds, as being the finest in form and fleece, and also because it has been largely used in crossing, for the improvement of the other varieties.

The head is hornless, and rather long and narrow; ears thin, with spots of bluish tinge. The long, well cut ear of the pure Leicester, with its sprightly backward inclination, is a distinguishing characteristic of the breed, as is also the full, prominent eye, with quiet and lively expression. The face and forehead must be bare of wool, though covered with a fine coat of hair—white, with a little inclination to a bluish tint.

The body is straight; with ribs well sprung and barrel shaped; the pelt inclined to be thin; the wool exceedingly soft, fine and lustrous, and should be uniform over the carcass.

The extremities—muzzle and legs—are exceedingly fine, but the quarters are full and wide, with back broad and level. Indeed, the carcass of the true Leicester sheep is as near perfection in form as can be conceived possible.

The Cotswold, though of late years modified by the crosses of the Leicester blood, and, therefore, strongly resembling that breed, is somewhat coarser and longer in carcass; with a heavy fleece, which should be as lustrous, though not so fine as the Leicester. The head is larger, and must have a tuft of wool on the forehead, which the Leicester never has.

The Lincoln is as large as the Cotswold, though in other respects, as now bred, very strongly resembling the Leicester. The head is long, the face narrow and bare of wool, with white, fine hair and light bluish tint as in the Leicester. They stand rather higher on the leg than the two varieties before mentioned, and the carcass is apt to be less symmetrical; but the fleece is longer and heavier, and, though not quite so fine as the Leicester, is unsurpassed in lustre, and therefore commands the best prices in the markets.

It is difficult to describe animals so as to enable a person to determine the pure bred from the mongrel; indeed the best judges are not always able to detect the presence of a slight dash of inferior blood.

One thing the producer may rely upon—that long-wool sheep peddled about the country at low prices are never pure-bred. Indeed, blooded stock of all sorts should be purchased of parties that are known as reputable breeders—this is the only reliable security the purchaser can have that the animal purchased will turn out what it is represented to be.

The Southdown sheep has a broad, rather short, though exceedingly neat head; forehead covered with wool, and the face and legs with grey or brown hair. The fleece is rather short, of good felting quality, equal to half-blood Merino, but superior for flannel, etc., and should be solid and compact, and of uniform quality throughout, without projecting hairs.

The carcass should be straight, with well sprung ribs and broad, level back, having wide quarters, deep flank and well-packed twist. This being held in higher esteem than any other breed for the production of superior mutton, the full and perfect development of carcass is deemed of the highest importance.

The Hampshire Downs are coarser in form and fleece, with black faces and legs.

The Shropshire Downs are a cross between the Southdowns and long-wools—a large breed, with long, coarse wool, in form re-

sembling the Cotswold, with black faces and legs.

In regard to this matter of the color of the faces and the legs, it is remarkable that while the Southdowns, which stand at the head of all these varieties, have, as before observed, brown or gray colors in these parts, their crosses on other breeds will frequently show black faces and legs.

When the object is to keep a small flock for mutton, rams of this variety are found exceedingly profitable to cross on ewes, of almost any other breed. But the nearer they go to the pure blood the better the mutton.—Live Stock Journal.

VALUE OF DAIRY COWS AS INDICATED BY BODILY MARKS AND CHARACTERISTICS.

Mr. Baldwin discussed this question in the Utica Herald, and he has established a reputation in his neighborhood for accuracy in the selection of good milkers by the observation of the points which he describes. He claims such accuracy for his observation that he can go into a dairy, and, being informed what one or two of the cows can do in the pail, can name the amount of each of the other cows within four pounds in the day's milking. He claims it necessary to know what one or two of the cows are doing that he may form a decision concerning the quality of food and care which the cows receive. Knowing this, he can rate each of the cows very accurately.

Dairy cattle are generally inferior. Very good cows are the exception. There seems to have been a retrogression during the last thirty years. There has been too little breeding especially for milk. There is a necessity now to the dairyman for a breed that shall combine the good points in all existing breeds. The milk product could be increased one-third by thus breeding. There are poor cows in every breed. If the best cows for milk should be selected from each of the breeds, there would be found not a great difference between them. There are native cows as good as any, but take a dairy made up of natives and the average would not be as good as in a dairy of Ayrshires or Jerseys.

The head of an extremely good cow should be small, as the best milkers are fine boned; it should also be long and "cut up" under the neck with a dishing face. The neck should be thin and comparatively long. The hips should be high. The hind legs of the cow that was best for dairy purposes should be somewhat crooked, and it was here that breeders, in making selections, often made mistakes by preferring cattle with a leg quite straight up and down behind, like the best Short-horns. There should be a slight "sag" to the belly, but the animal should be on the whole a little wedge-shaped from back to front, the hips being higher than the shoulder, and the line from belly to brisket inclining upward. The tails of dairy cattle were generally of pretty good length, with a considerable taper. The eye-brows of the best cattle were light and somewhat flattened. It is important in selecting cattle for breeding that all these points should be made known, it being impossible to make the best purchases by symmetry alone. There were four points that should be specially studied, and which serve as final indications of milking qualities.

First, the milk veins, so-called, passing from the forward side of the udder along the under side of the animal toward the front. They are either small or large, straight or very crooked. Consider the size of these veins, for the size is one of the infallible tests of a good milker. Be careful to see whether the vein is double or not, for it sometimes branches out, and if double the two should be added together, because they may be equal to one large vein. The veins sometimes form an angle on the front side of the udder. This seldom occurs, except on a very good cow. On calves and fleshy cattle it is difficult to find these veins, therefore the test can only be applied to cows in milking condition. A network of veins on the perineum is a good test and indicates milk. The chine, reaching half way from the shoulder to the hip, should be examined. If it be double the cow is above the average. Sometimes with a single chine there is a depression into which two fingers can be laid, if the animal is not too fat. This is good. It indicates a lax physical condition of the animal, and this is favorable either for milk or beef.

The fourth test, which Mr. Baldwin pronounces infallible, consists in observation of the escutcheon, the "milk mirror." The escutcheon extends from the front of the bag where the hair begins to grow backward, over the bag and up and around the thighs. Cows with the escutcheon well marked have strong constitutions, digestion rapid and complete, a restless and nervous disposition. Mr. Baldwin divides the rear mirror into two parts, the vertical mirror which extends from the bag toward the root of the tail, and the thigh mirror which extends around the thigh outward. He says it is a mistake to take the straight vertical mirror as a guide alone, and to say that when there is a wide mirror between the loins up and down, there is a good milker. The thigh mirror must be large and well marked. Oval spots of large size on the back of the bag are indications of a large flow of milk. The front mirror is the space between the front test and the place where the bag joins the body in front. If this space is large the indication is of good milking qualities. The milk mirror shows on the udder, and should be examined before selecting a male for breeding. The bull will have the mirror perfectly marked, but will not be as extended as in the cow. Calves can be judged by the

test of the milk mirror, but careful observation and practice are necessary.

Mr. Baldwin has found that only in one or two instances he failed to secure more than average cows from calves selected by these tests. Another test, which he pronounces infallible, is the color of the dandruff which gathers chiefly in the upper part of the thigh mirror. If the dandruff be oily and lemon-colored there will be rich milk; if dry and brown like the dust of the floor there may be poor milk expected. Cows which give a large mess and then drop off one-third within a month after connection with the male animal, may be distinguished by coarse hair growing upon the broad escutcheon behind. Cows with these knots of coarse hair will lose their milk and should not be bred from.

Patrons of Husbandry.

The Patrons' Hand Book, which is mailed to any post office in the United States and Canada for 25 cts., is acknowledged to contain more practical grange information than any book yet published. Examine the testimony of the officers of State Granges all over the United States.

The use in subordinate granges of the sett of receipt and order books issued at this office will prevent confusion and mixing of accounts; they are invaluable in keeping the money matters of a grange straight.

The three books are sent, postage paid, to any grange, for \$1.50.

OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE.

Master—John T. Jones, of Arkansas.
Overseer—J. J. Woodman, of Michigan.
Lecturer—A. B. Smedley, of Iowa.
Steward—Mortimer Whitehead, of New Jersey.

Assistant Steward—G. W. Thompson, New Brunswick, N. J.

Chaplain—S. H. Ellis, of Ohio.

Treasurer—F. M. McDowell, N. Y.

Secretary—O. H. Kelley, Louisville, Ky.

Gate-keeper—O. Dinwiddie, Orchard Grove, Lake County, Indiana.

Ceres—Mrs. J. T. Jones, Arkansas.

Pomona—Sister Harvey Goddard, Connecticut.

Flora—Sister S. E. Adams, Minnesota.

Lady Assistant Steward—Miss Carrie A. Hall, Louisville, Ky.

TWO OPINIONS—WHICH IS RIGHT?

To the Patrons of Kansas.

Among the Patrons of Kansas, to-day, two opinions prevail upon the propriety of urging through public journals, which have espoused the cause of the Grange, reforms and changes. On the one hand many believe that criticisms upon officers or their conduct, or the urging of reforms in organic law or rules or regulations should be confined strictly to the Grange room. On the other hand, many, among which the FARMER is one, believes in the thorough discussion of proposed changes and reforms as the only means the subordinate Granges have of securing an interchange of views and that there is neither cause or justice or propriety in covering up and condoning with trickery or fraud.

While the FARMER has been independent and outspoken in its course, it has always given what it deemed good and sufficient reasons for what it advocates.

In a late issue we urged the removal of the new State Agent, A. T. Stewart. We did this because his appointment was secured by trickery and fraud, the facts concerning which we present below. To show the wide difference of opinion between the ring organ, *The Spirit*, and the FARMER, and to permit Patrons to fairly judge which is the honest advocate of true Grange principles, we give the following from the *Spirit of Kansas*:

THE STATE AGENT.

Mr. A. T. Stewart, appointed State Agent of the Patrons of Kansas, is a good man and worthy brother, in every way qualified for the position. We have known him for years, knew him before he came to Kansas, and we know him to be a good Patron, having the interest of the Order at heart. We advise the patrons of Kansas to correspond with him at Kansas City upon all matters of business connected with the Order, and they will find Bro. Stewart a man whose word can be relied upon, and in every way worthy of the confidence of the members of the Order in Kansas.

We stated above that Mr. Stewart's appointment was secured by trickery and fraud. The following are the facts:

During the late meeting of the State Grange, the Executive Committee appointed W. P. Popenoe, a member of the Ex. Com., State Agent, and further than this indicated the course the Committee desired him to pursue as State Agent. After the State Grange adjourned and the following members of the Executive Committee had gone home, viz: Mr. Dumbauld, Chairman; Mr. Popenoe, Mr. Fletcher and Mr. Collins, the records were changed and Mr. Stewart appointed State Agent. There were but two members of the Committee of six present—one of whom was Mr. Stewart. No reasons appear for this unceremonious removal of Mr. Popenoe or none given for Mr. Stewart's appointment.

Four members of the Committee constitute a quorum; two have thus taken the responsibility of undoing what the Committee determined as their action. The bald facts are sufficient to condemn the appointment and to justify the removal urged by this journal. If the records can be thus changed and mutilated without the shadow of authority, and the wishes of the majority ignored, what may not be done in the interest of this determined ring?

The adulation and flattery from the subsidized personal ring organ will not be sufficient to blind the eyes of the Patrons of Kansas. If the State Grange Secretary has the assurance to openly defy the action of the State Grange, and two members of the Executive can overturn the work of the whole Committee of six, we believe the honest think-

ing Patrons of Kansas will agree with us when we say that there must be radical changes for the better if these officers wish to preserve the organization in Kansas. We believe a special called meeting of the Executive Committee should be made at once and Mr. Stewart removed from a position he holds without a shadow of right, or by any legal authority. It is within the power of the Executive Committee to correct these abuses of power and reinstate confidence.

Will they do it?

AN ADDRESS.

Delivered Before Capital Grange in Topeka January 8th, 1876, by A. Washburn.

Patrons: In entering upon the duties as Master of Capital Grange, I am not unmindful of the responsibilities of the position I am about to occupy. In the discharge of the duties of the chair, I shall often make mistakes, but shall rely on your generous forbearance and indulgence.

I ask you to lend me your aid, in the untold position you have assigned me. I have a right to expect your co-operation here in our semi-monthly gatherings. Since our organization which is most three years, we have become acquainted with each other, our acquaintance has ripened into friendship, almost as strong as the ties of kindred, and who, among its members, can but bless the day that witnessed their connection with Capital Grange.

We are aware that some are disappointed in their anticipations, in some respects. We do not deny but mistakes have been made, not only in subordinate but in State and National Grange. Jealousies have crept in among some members in different localities, but, we think, we are safe in the assertion, that no social organization has ever achieved as much good for the laboring class as a whole, as has the order of the Patrons of Husbandry, and still, let us hope we have but just entered upon the good time coming.

But, says the objector to the Grange machinery there are some imperfections in the arrangement of some of its minor details; it is not as perfect as you fair would have us believe.

Would you blot out the sun, the great central orb of our solar system, because, by the use of the telescope, you can discover some dark spots on its surface? Equally suicidal would it be to discard all, or even any human invention or organization, on the account of some imaginary, or real fault in its construction.

Whatever imperfections, were at first engrafted in the Magna Charta of our National Constitution, are being lopped off, gradually, by persistent and wise counsels, and ere long let us hope, that instrument will be pointed to, as a model of perfection, shorn of its exclusive privileges, and granting preferment to none, save by election, by those designed to be represented in the particular position, such election shall designate.

We deem it essential to the greatest good to the order that our organization should be in its broadest sense, an elective representative government. No divine right attaching anywhere, and special privileges adhering to no official, or ex-official in the order.

The occupation of the farmer is looked upon by too many of the kid gloved gentry as being too menial in its character, to command their admiration, or even respect, but a moment's reflection will convince any reasonable mind, that on the success of the tillers of the soil rests the prosperity of the State.

The truth of this assertion is apparent whenever the hopes and anticipations of the husbandman are blasted, either by drouth or floods, chinch bugs or grasshoppers, a pall at once settles down upon the entire community, whether merchant, banker or manufacturer. No one will dispute the foregoing statement. Such being the fact, ought not the husbandman to feel proud of his commanding position, and walk with head erect amid the busy throng of village or city.

The constitution of the Grange forbids the acceptance of persons as members of our order, whose greater direct interests are connected with other occupations or professions, than the cultivation of the soil.

The exclusiveness, if it may be so called, is not attributable to any antagonism, existing between the agriculturist and other legitimate callings, or occupations. We hail with delight the erection of manufacturing establishments, the nearer to the producer the better, where his surplus products can find a ready market, and where the treasures of earth can be moulded into form of man's use, as the genius of American invention, has already crystallized and developed the machinery necessary for the purpose.

Although agriculture is the oldest of occupations, still, commerce and manufactures are necessary to the highest enjoyment of which mankind is susceptible of reaching.

This statement admitted, it would seem to be the mark of wisdom for the members of the Grange, to so shape their actions, and conduct the business features of the order, as to diversify the productions of the soil, thereby, inducing capitalists to employ their surplus means, in the erection of manufacturing establishments, in close proximity to large productive agricultural districts.

I would like to impress this idea upon your minds; and while we cultivate the social element of our organization, and work in harmony in co-operative efforts, may the decisions of our counsels be such as to command the respect of all, with whom we have to do.

In conclusion permit me to thank you, for electing me as your presiding officer for the

centennial year, 1876. I fear, however, I shall not meet your expectations in this position, which has been so worthily filled by my distinguished predecessors.

GRANGE INTELLIGENCE.

MISSOURI.

Brother T. R. Allen, Master of the State Grange, furnishes the following summary of the proceedings of that body at its late session: "We spent a great deal of money. Many had a pleasant time. Many gained a large stock of new ideas. Some aired their eloquence. Much gas that had been long pent up found means of escape, and vanished into the invisible air. The national bird occasionally soared aloft, and with upward gaze forgot all sublunary things. Many points of order were raised. Many motions, substitutes and amendments were made. An unusual number of previous questions were moved. Quite a number laid on the table. Many that thought they would be struck by lightning weren't, and some that did not expect to be were. But this was not all. We picked the last year's constitution and by-laws all to pieces, and used some of the pieces and some new material in constructing another. With proper care, this may last till next session, providing the Master and Secretary and Chairman of the Executive Committee will write a few thousands of letters each to explain it. We passed some very excellent 'resolves' and mutual compliments. There were very many fervent expressions of love for and loyalty to the 'noble order.' Many expressions of earnest regard for constituents, or the dear people, and frequent reminders that we were spending their money. The fervor of zeal sometimes led speakers to think they were in a Legislature or Congress, or a court, addressing a judge or jury, or Mr. Speaker. They simply forgot for the moment that they were farmers and brethren. At such times it was very natural that they should become a little personal and lose their temper. But this was, of course, only for the moment. A little reflection always brought them round all right again, and all was 'lovely.'"

THE MASTER OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE. John T. Jones, was born in Essex County, Va. in 1813. He graduated at the University of Virginia at the age of 20, and immediately afterward commenced farming in Essex county, Virginia.

In 1835 he removed to Barton, Phillips County Arkansas, where he now resides, and commenced in the woods, living in tents till cabins could be built.

He cultivates 1400 acres yearly. In the spring of 1872, Judge Jones organized the first Grange in Arkansas, and upon the organization of the State Grange in 1872, Judge Jones was elected master, and was since re-elected, and enjoys the entire confidence and esteem of the members of the order in Arkansas. Since the election of Judge Jones as a member of the national Executive Committee, at the Charleston session, he has displayed rare business qualities, and has rendered the order valuable service. He was one of a committee of five, who reported and recommended the adoption of the declaration of purposes, at the St. Louis session. At the last session, which was held in Louisville, he was elected master of the National Grange, and his estimable wife was unanimously elected Ceres.

KENTUCKY.

The Patrons have gone to work in earnest to raise funds for the purpose of building a National Grange temple at the headquarters in Louisville, Ky. For this purpose they have instituted the new "Degree of the Golden Sheaf," which can be taken by any member of the order or others who will contribute one dollar to be expended in building the temple.

ILLINOIS.

The office of State Purchasing agent was abolished at the last meeting of the State Grange, having been found to be impracticable to concentrate the purchases for all this great State into the hands of one man.

The Treasurer reported \$10,000, in the State Grange Treasury.

OHIO.

The State Grange meet at Cleveland, February 8th.

The Executive Committee will hold meetings, at Athens, January 4. Columbus, February 19th. Mount Vernon, January 20th, and January 21st, at Alliance for the purpose of organizing joint stock supply houses in those places.

DOMINION GRANGE.

At the late meeting of the Dominion Grange the following officers were elected: Master, S. W. Hill, Rigville, Ont. Secretary, W. Pemberton Page, Fonthill, Ont. Treasurer, J. H. Bull, Downview, Ont.

TEXAS.

The State Grange met at Tyler, Jan. 10.

The Farmer's Friend says: A Grange that meets half an hour after the time fixed; hurries over the conferring of degrees in a slipshod, skip-and-jump manner; dispenses with the singing as unnecessary, or because nobody chooses to lead; dwells unnecessarily long on unimportant matters; allows one or two to do all the talking; never encourages the sisters to say a word; postpones important questions; looks upon the organization only as a purchasing agency, and allows some member to be "exhausted" from everything, piling all the burdens on a few—such a Grange is a sore stumbling block, and its members will never know what solid prosperity, or a good Grange is, until the noxious features are weeded out.

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Florida! Florida!

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The Kansas Farmer.

J. K. HUDSON, Editor & Proprietor, Topeka, Kan.

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A special and interesting department of the paper will be the short letters from farmers and breeders, fruit-growers and others interested in the various branches of agriculture. The live discussions upon the topics of the day, embracing full and complete information upon every phase of the farmer's movement, will also be a prominent feature of the paper. Specimen copies will be sent free to any address.

OUR GREAT HARD PAN CLUB OFFER.

Over 2000 columns of reading matter, o Postage Paid for \$1.25. We offer nei- o ther bulls, jack-knives, washing ma- o chines, cheap jewelry or dabs, called o chronos, for premiums. THE FARMER o is given for the lowest possible cash o price and every subscriber can keep the o money, he would upon the premium o plan, give to buy somebody else a pre- o sent. We pay the agent getting up the o club ourselves.
o THE FARMER 1 year (52 numbers) o postage paid, in Clubs of 10 for o \$1.25 per copy, with AN EXTRA COPY o TO THE PERSON GETTING UP THE CLUB. o Address, J. K. HUDSON, o Editor and Prop., Topeka, Kansas. o

The American Young Folks.—We wish to say to our young friends who read the Farmer that the January number of the Young Folks is in preparation. It will be as great an improvement over the Christmas number as it was better than the first number issued. Everywhere in all the States West of the Mississippi river the paper is going into many new homes. Kind words of commendation are coming with the subscriptions that every mail brings us. The engraver is at work on "Uncle Frank's" first lessons in penmanship and phonics, which will be a new and very interesting as well as a valuable feature of the paper. The Pictures, Charades, Games, Stories, etc., will delight not only every boy and girl, but every man and woman who take an interest in having our youth furnished with entertaining and helpful reading. It must not be forgotten that the Young Folks and the Farmer do not go together for one price in 1876. The Young Folks sent one year to any address, postage paid, for 50 cents. Six copies to any address, postage paid, for \$3.50.

BIRDS VS. INSECTS.

Birds should be protected and not killed. I should be an offence to kill birds, as they are the friend of the farmer, and save him an untold amount of property. Of late years it would seem that insects have multiplied a hundred fold, and now most every crop is subject to their depredations. The potato crop must be protected from the Colorado beetle; the currant from the saw fly; the plum from the curculio; the apple crop must be protected from the borer, the codling moth and the tent caterpillar; the pear from the slug; the cabbage from the cabbage worm; cucumbers and melons from the squash beetle; the corn from the cut worm, army worm, and chinch bugs; oats and wheat from the wire worm and chinch bugs; and in some of the Western States, from the Colorado locusts; the tobacco crop from the tobacco worm; the cotton from the cotton worm, and so on to the end of the list. It is a continual warfare from the time the farmer plants his crop till he harvests it. The loss to the farmer in 1874 was not less than \$300,000,000.

Now the question arises, What is the remedy for all this devastation? There are two: birds, and the united work of the farmers. Farmers should protect the birds and work to destroy these insects. It is surprising what united effort will bring forth. In Minnesota, some sections of the country have been freed from the locusts by an united onslaught of the people, whereby over twenty thousand bushels of locusts, in one county, have been killed, and the premium of \$1.50 per bushel has been paid, and the crops saved to a great extent.

Orchards can be protected from the tent caterpillar by syringing the nest with water in which a tablespoonful of Paris green to a pailful has been mixed; a painful being sufficient for two trees. The codling moth can also be trapped by means of cloth placed in the forks of the branches, and hay bales wound around the trunks, from now till fall, and the insects collected and killed. The potato beetle may be destroyed by sprinkling the top with water in which Paris green has been mixed. It only needs an united effort on the part of the farmers to greatly diminish the insects that destroy so much every year. But the greatest agent is the birds. They will catch the white butterfly, the parents of the cabbage worms, the saw fly, which produces the currant worm. The birds eat the eggs of the insect which are so destructive. Millions of eggs are eaten by the birds. To place the estimate at \$600,000,000 which was saved to the farmers last year by the birds is a low estimate. Save the birds and our insect pests will be greatly diminished.

GOVERNOR OSBORN'S MESSAGE.

Governor Osborn presents to the people of Kansas a fair and business like document containing some very excellent suggestions. The following compact exhibit of one financial status will be read with interest.

The total bonded indebtedness of the State is \$1,385,775, and the resources belonging to the various funds in the treasury are, cash \$129,745.01; bonds, \$1,403,359.09; and taxes due from the various counties, \$416,583.39, a total of \$1,949,687.49. Of the bonded indebtedness, \$769,550, is held by the State as an investment for its several permanent funds. Of the out-standing bonds, \$150,000 will fall due on the first of July next. These were the first bonds issued by the State, and were authorized by the legislature of 1861 for the purpose of putting the new State government in motion, and defraying its current expenses. The sinking fund in the treasury, created for the final redemption of State securities, has reached the sum of \$327,525. This is invested in the bonds of the State and of the United States, and it will be the duty of the Sinking Fund Commissioners to sell a sufficient amount of them to take up the bonds about to fall due.

The total receipts of the treasury from taxes during the fiscal year, were \$646,248.51, of which \$480,774.79 was credited to the general revenue fund, the remainder going into the annual school, interest, and sinking funds. From the general revenue is paid the current expenses of the State government, including the salaries of the State and judicial officers, the expenses of the Legislature, public printing, the support of our educational and benevolent institutions, and the money invested in permanent public buildings. To a careful consideration of the items embraced in the disbursement of this considerable sum your attention should be earnestly and vigorously directed. From this sum there was expended during the year \$496,512.58, leaving undrawn, of the appropriations made last winter, \$17,941.57. Upwards of one-fourth, or about \$140,000, was for the erection of permanent public buildings, while nearly one-half of the remainder was for the support of the various State institutions.

Concerning the Lappin Treasury matter, the Governor says:
It is proper to add, however, that the public interest demands that the person or persons guilty of this crime should be punished, and that, too, without unnecessary delay. The government is strong in proportion as it shows itself entitled to the confidence of the people. The prompt, faithful and fearless discharge of duty by all public officers, and a vigorous execution of the law, are the only means by which that confidence can be preserved. It will be the duty of the Legislature to provide the proper department of the government with the funds requisite to the energetic prosecution of these cases.

Governor Osborn has the honor to call for the fourth time the attention of the Legislature to the necessity for a State Reform School for the youthful criminals.

The further recommendations may be summed up as follows:

1. Another amendment to harmonize the Constitution with "biennial sessions."
2. The calling of a constitutional convention.
3. A reorganization of judicial districts.
4. Extreme care in apportionment.
5. Some immediate action in regard to the State lands.
6. Provision for a record of county officers in the office of the Secretary of State.
7. An increase in the salary of State Treasurer.
8. The preservation of the records in the Surveyor General's office.
9. An amendment of the law so as to require that persons convicted of murder in the first degree shall be punished with death, or the total abolition of capital punishment.
10. Attention to the recommendations of the State Superintendent of Insurance.
11. Legislation for the preservation of birds.
12. An appropriation of \$25,000 to enable Kansas to make a creditable appearance at the great Centennial.

The Governor highly commends the labors of the State Board of Agriculture.

THE WORK OF AN AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL.

There are many individuals especially interested in one branch of the farm who will examine their agricultural journals with special reference to the subject which most concerns them. This idea no doubt prompts many who, for instance, are engaged in fruit growing, to insist that much more space be devoted to discussions upon that subject. The stock grower, on the other hand, says he does not want so much space given to fruit, but more to stock, upon which the people must depend for money. Another subscriber, whose business is the dairy, wants less of Grange, less of grain growing, and more of the dairy. A Patron will write, "give less of ordinary farm topics and more space to the grange," while the applanian declares emphatically that the bee interest is entirely neglected. The good wives and their daughters insist that the home department must not be crowded out, while we have had readers object to giving a page to "that sort of stuff."

So, kind reader, we go on, striving to make a paper for our thousands of readers that will, as the year rolls round, be found to contain a large amount of useful and helpful reading for all the many varied tastes for which we labor.

To undertake to follow each suggestion or to try to make a journal the sentiments of every article of which would meet every reader's views, would be utterly impossible. It is the editor's work to glean from many fields what he deems most seasonable and most worthy the attention of his readers; to sift and choose from the hundreds of other journals their best and choicest bits, which, with the help invaluable of correspondents, to present a new and varied feast for the mind each week.

If a journal is to have a conscience—and they are very worthless if they have none—that conscience must be the reflection of the editor's ideas of right. That editor, however

accommodating or however able, cannot give, in his own writings, other convictions than his own. He may very often err in his judgment, but if honest to himself and his readers will be found earnest and consistent.

It need not matter half so much to a reader whether the editor's ideas and his own exactly agree or not. What is of first importance to the reader is, in our opinion, that he have cause to believe in that editor's honesty of purpose. The stopping of a paper because of a difference of opinion between the editor and the reader is the most childish nonsense. To take journals of various political opinions, religious papers of different sects, agricultural and literary papers of different views, gives to the reader broader views of societies, sects, parties, principles and the motives of men. There is nothing that so startles a narrow-minded man as to make the discovery that there are earnest, honest men who hold exactly opposite views to his own and that they can give just as good reasons for their faith as he can for his.

Broader reading, wider, deeper thinking, brings to men kindly consideration for others' rights and feelings, and that nobility of all human virtues—charity.

TAXING CHURCH PROPERTY.

The President's recommendations in relation to the public schools and the taxation of church property have received great attention from the religious press. *Zion's Advocate* says, for the Baptists of Maine, that the drift of public opinion among them "is unquestionably in the line of the President's recommendation for the taxation of Church property."

The *Churchman* (New York) thinks that "the recommendation of the President is a very significant sign that attacks upon the Bible will not help forward a division of the school funds. We do not believe that the constitutional amendment proposed can be adopted. It is in its nature self-contradictory. Its opponents will not merely be Roman Catholics, but will embrace that large number in all religious bodies who believe that no government can prosper which does not teach religious truth in some form to its children and youth." The *Methodist* says: "We can not shut our eyes to the fact that the question has been forced upon national consideration by papal intrigues, and we devoutly hope that a swift and nearly unanimous assent of the country to the proposed constitutional amendment may sweep away the danger that menaces us, and leaves us in possession of our old boast that a free church in a free state is not only wise statesmanship, but a mighty peace."

The *Observer* doubts the expediency of action by the general government, where action by State governments will suffice, but has long expected that the interference of the Catholics with the public schools would bring about the state of feeling of which the President's Message is an expression. Other papers treat the subject in the same thoughtful spirit, but without entire unanimity as to the remedy.

AGENTS FOR THE "FARMER" WANTED IN EVERY COMMUNITY.

We have a new special cash offer to make to parties who can devote some time to the special work of canvassing for the FARMER. It is the best offer ever made to agents by a first-class journal. The FARMER is a live progressive Farm and Family Journal of known and established character.

In its 14th year, the FARMER will show an improvement and vigor in all its departments not before seen in Western journalism. There are thousands of people who will become subscribers for just such a journal as the FARMER, if presented to them.

This work may be done everywhere throughout the West before spring, the agents thus introducing a valuable paper into homes, and making good wages for themselves.

If you are prepared to go to work canvassing at once, our special and very liberal offer will be sent you upon application.

Fine Tea.—Attention of our readers is called to the advertisement of Mr. Wm. English, of New York, who is offering first-class teas at very low rates. Our readers will observe a change in the figures of Mr. English's advertisement this week. They are marked up somewhat, in consequence of the late rise in the tea market caused by the belief that Congress was intending to restore the duty on tea this winter.

THEY ARE COMING.

They are coming—from the East, the West and the North and the South they are coming, singly, in pairs, four, five, ten, twenty, and thirty at a time are the subscribers to the old FARMER coming. How often cautious friends have said the past two years, don't be so impulsive, don't strike out so regardless of your interests. Go slow, let things have their own course, etc., etc. We have had an abiding that the farmers of the West wanted and would support an outspoken independent journal that was impulsive and aggressive in its fight for right and justice. We have always most thoroughly believed there was enough independent thinking farmers in Kansas alone to rally to the support of a fearless champion of their rights and interests. We have not been mistaken in this. The old FARMER in spite of tricksters and ring masters goes straight to the front bearing with it success, and the kind words of congratulation from many households all over the West. Friends we thank you for the good work you are doing—our most earnest labor shall be given to make the Centennial year volume worthy of your confidence and support.

A USELESS CLUB.

A body of Republicans in New York, calling themselves the Grant Central Club, lately held a meeting and issued an address advocating the renomination of the President. The address says:

"We advocate the renomination of President Grant in 1876 because of grave considerations. Our nation is now, under the wise policy of non-interference pursued by his Administration, removed from entanglement with foreign complications. Our internal affairs, firmly but impartially directed, are progressing toward final adjustment. Our financial difficulties are the only obstacles to general prosperity; and in the event of war in Europe, the safety of American securities must bring the bullion of commerce and investment to our shores, provided that no perilous change in our national Administration shall endanger domestic concerns and, as a consequence, impair our credit abroad. The position of President Grant is so well understood to be alike pledged for peaceful relations with all nations, and for the restoration and guarantee of quiet in our own States, that his name is a synonym for security in peace as in war."

The number of persons present at the meeting was not large, but the argument of the address, being that of all those who seriously urge a renomination, is worth a moment's attention.

The members of the Grant Central Club have probably sneered a great deal at the talk about Caesar. Do they know what Caesarism is? It is the doctrine of their address. It is the advocacy of personal government in a country of laws. It is the assertion that in a republic some one person is essential to the national safety. Their argument is the argument of Caesar and Napoleon. Louis Napoleon—not the law of France—was "the savior of society." The Grant Central Club virtually argues that General Grant is indispensable to the welfare of the United States.

Can no one but the President preserve us from foreign entanglements, or direct our internal affairs firmly and impartially, or co-operate for a sound financial system? Granting that he is doing all these things, that he is honest, faithful, efficient, if that be a reason for electing him a fourth time, it is a reason for electing him as long as he is honest and faithful and efficient. It is true that there is no written constitutional prohibition of such a course, but there is one unwritten. And why? Why is a feeling against a third term so strong as to be regarded as of constitutional sanction? Because of the universal conviction that a continuous re-election, with the enormous patronage of the civil service, would necessarily lead to a subversion of the government. Nothing needs more careful protection among a free people than the forms of freedom. Disregard of the forms is the first sign of the decay of the spirit. General Grant is an honest and patriotic man, who has rendered to his country services which his grateful countrymen will never forget; but if he were as politically wise as the greatest of his predecessors, both for the welfare of his country and for the interests of his party he would long ago have made the formation of the Grant Central Club as useless as that of a club to explore Symmes's Hole.—*Harper's Weekly*.

TRUMBULL, REYNOLDS & ALLEN—A SKETCH OF THEIR BUSINESS.

The firm of Trumbull, Reynolds & Allen has now been with us over four years, and handling, as they do, standard lines of farm machinery and seeds of all descriptions, have built up a trade that has even surprised themselves. The extent of the new West being so vast, all to be settled up and seeded with tame grasses and grain, requires a house at the supply point, where resources and reliability should be equal to the demand. Trumbull, Reynolds & Allen have met this requirement, as evinced by the unusual trade given them the past season.

This house has proved equal to the emergency. The immense demand in seed the past summer, the country being destitute on account of the severe winter of 1875 and grasshopper devastation, creating in the grasshopper section a treble demand for seeds, and seeds never before used in this section of the country; but the house, as we have said, was equal to the emergency—came square up to the front with their supplies, and very few of their many hundred customers can say they were not satisfied with their promptness in filling orders, and in the quality of seeds furnished. The house uses great care in sending but none but the best.

Foreseeing the calls of the new West for a first-class Garden Seed house, they have met that call, furnishing just as good seed and at just as reasonable prices as can be obtained of Eastern houses, and better seeds, you may say, for they buy their seeds by personal selection of the best growers in the country, having many of them grown for them, seeds especially adapted to the climate of the West and Southwest. They are publishing a catalogue giving description and prices of their seeds, also of their agricultural implements, replete with useful information which should be in the hands of every gardener, farmer and dealer. Sent free upon application.

This house has done much toward making a market here for flax seed and castor beans—in fact they have made the market. Foreseeing the adaptability of our soil and climate to the raising of these two cereals; they have worked it up from the first year they came here, from the handling of a small quantity to immense proportions the past season. This, of course, has been done only by a liberal policy toward sellers, for it is ascertained that of the immense amount raised the past season in Kansas and Western Missouri, very little passed through here, this firm always being ready to buy it on a small margin, no matter in what quantity.

While developing the seed business to its full extent this firm pays particular attention to the jobbing and retail trade.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

Handling as they do a standard line of machinery, they are general agents for the West and the Southwest and for the Canton Clipper Plow, Parlin Cultivator, and Superior Grain Drills.

For Bronchial Asthma and Pulmonary Complaints, "Brown's Bronchial Troches" manifest remarkable curative properties.

Grange Topics.—The Grange discussions and news of the Farmer will all appear hereafter in the department of Patron's of Husbandry. The editorial to be found in that department this week entitled "Two opinions, which is right?" Was written by the editor, the facts of which he vouches for and for the publication of which he is alone to be considered responsible.

DIGEST OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE KANSAS LEGISLATURE FOR 1876.

16th Annual Session.

SENATE.

TOPEKA, Jan. 11, 1876.
Lieut. Gov. Salter—called the Senate to order at 12 o'clock, and the clerk proceeded to call the roll of members. The following gentlemen answered to their names: C. G. Bridges, of Dothan; G. W. Gillespie, of Atchison; S. P. Griffin, of Atchison; J. M. Miller, of Nemaha; Ross W. Williams, of Washington; D. B. Scheffer, of Jefferson; J. P. Bauserman, of Leavenworth; T. L. Johnson, of Leavenworth; John A. Halderman, of Leavenworth; B. Judd, of Wyandotte; W. W. Bailey, of Johnson; R. B. McMillan, of Linn; J. W. Balmum, of Bourbon; D. M. Davis, of Crawford; E. C. Wells, of Cherokee; J. H. Crittendon, of Labette; Walter L. Shanks, of Neosho; Thomas Bartlett, of Allen; W. L. Parkinson, of Franklin; C. Robinson, Douglas; Wm. Sims, of Shawnee; D. W. Finney, of Woodson; W. A. Puffer, of Wilson; William Martindale, of Greenwood; H. C. St. Clair, of Sumner; H. P. Dow, of Riley; Horace Cooper, of Mitchell; J. C. Horton, of Douglas.

The following were the absentees: John S. Hopkins, of Jackson; William Jones of Miami; Charles S. Martin of Osage; Samuel H. Peters, of Marion, and S. Stephens, of McPherson.

Samuel H. Peters, of Marion, having been elected Judge of the 9th Judicial District, S. M. Wood, of Chase, was elected last fall to fill the vacancy. Mr. Crittendon moved the admission of S. M. Wood, the new member from Chase. Carried. Mr. Wood was sworn in. Senate adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

HOUSE.

House called to order by the Secretary of State at 12 m. The names of the members were called and all answered to their names they appeared before the speaker's desk and were sworn into office by Chief Justice Kingman.

Mr. Benedict, of Wilson, was elected temporary Speaker. Mr. Bonbrake, of Shawnee, temporary Secretary. Mr. Elder moved that the House now proceed to elect a permanent speaker, which motion prevailed.

Mr. Taylor, of Reno, then placed in nomination Mr. Haskell. Mr. Duncan, of Harvey, nominated Mr. Eskridge. Mr. Brumbaugh nominated Mr. Cook.

Mr. Hallowell seconded the nomination of Mr. Cook. Mr. Elder seconded the nomination of Mr. Haskell. The roll was called with the following result: Haskell, 45; Eskridge, 23; Cook, 24.

After considerable debate, the House adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow.

Winter delegates answered to their names and took the oath of office. There were only two absentees—Hooten, of Morris, and Stillings, of Leavenworth. The lobby and gallery were crowded with visitors and place-hunters.

SENATE.

TOPEKA, Jan. 12, 1876.
MORNING SESSION.
After reading the Journal, the Senate proceeded to consider the subject of electing a Chaplain, which resulted in the election of Rev. J. H. Hubbard, of the A. M. E. Church.

Senate adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

HOUSE.

TOPEKA, Jan. 12, 1876.
Quorum present. The House proceeded to ballot for permanent Speaker with the following result: Haskell 40; Cook 21; Eskridge 23. Second ballot resulted as follows: Haskell, 41; Cook, 28; Eskridge, 23.

Mr. Wood offered the following as a substitute for Mr. Hackney's resolution, which was accepted by Mr. Hackney, and adopted.

Resolved, That it requires a majority of all the members sworn in to elect officers. Adjourned until 2 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

House proceeded to ballot for permanent Speaker with the following result: Haskell, 56; Cook, 21; Eskridge, 15. Mr. Haskell was declared elected speaker and took the oath of office. Mr. West, the speaker, was conducted to the chair by Messrs. Cook, Eskridge and Haskell. Mr. Haskell, on taking the chair remarked that he would be indebted to all the finer feelings of humanity if he did not return to the gentlemen of the house his own sincere thanks. He felt his inability to fill the position to which he had been so highly honored. He regarded all the gentlemen as his personal friends, and he desired them to bear with him patiently. He would doubtless make mistakes, but he would assure the gentlemen that he would ever errors he might commit would be those of the head—not the heart. A political map of the State would have to be made this year, which would require special ability to perfect. The duties devolving upon the members of this house were arduous and responsible. Corruption stalked throughout the land and even the State is tainted with it. He was in favor of rebuking corruption and punishing the perpetrators wherever they were found. He heartily endorsed the sentiment of the chief magistrate of the nation—"Let no guilty man escape." Though elected a Republican he would stand by his political predilections to bias his judgment in his capacity as speaker.

The oath of office was administered to the Speaker by Judge Austin, of Junction City.

On motion of Mr. Wood Mr. Glick was elected Speaker pro tem.

Mr. Glick thanked the gentlemen for the honor they had conferred upon him and considered his election a high compliment, coming as it did from gentlemen of an opposite political party.

The House proceeded to the election of Chief Clerk, with the following result: Henry Booth, of Pawnee Co. 79—Judge Day, of Bourbon Co. 18. Mr. Booth was declared elected and took the oath of office. The Sergeant of Arms—resulted in favor of F. W. Higgins, of Osage Co., who was declared elected.

The House then adjourned till 10 a. m. to-morrow.

SENATE.

TOPEKA, Jan. 13, 1876.
The following are the important Bills and Resolutions offered in the Senate to-day:

Mr. Parkinson offered S. B. No. 1, providing for a committee to investigate the Permanent School Fund, which was read.

Mr. Puffer offered a resolution for investigating the Annual School Fund. Resolution read.

By Mr. Gillespie, S. B. No. 4, to amend an act entitled "An act concerning the investment of the State School and University funds, being chapter 95 of the General Statutes, and to repeal chapter 190 of the laws of 1872."

Mr. Crittendon introduced S. B. No. 13, to provide for the better protection of game, and to repeal chapter 45 of the General Statutes of 1868.

Also S. B. No. 14, for the better protection of the permanent school fund.

Mr. Halderman introduced S. B. No. 15, limiting the right of appeal and review.

Also S. B. No. 16, providing a bounty for the destruction of locusts.

Mr. Bauserman introduced S. B. No. 17, to repeal chapter 196 of laws of 1872, relating to sale of land for taxes.

Mr. Bartlett introduced S. B. No. 18, to repeal sections 3 and 5 of chapter 84 of the general laws of 1868, an act providing for sale of public lands to aid in the construction of certain railroads, and chapter 82 of the general laws of 1869.

Also S. B. No. 19, to recover to the State the title of certain lands granted the State of Kansas by act of Congress in 1841.

Mr. Griffin introduced S. B. No. 23, to amend an act entitled "An act concerning the investment of the State permanent school and university funds, and to limit such investment to State and United States bonds."

Mr. Dow introduced S. B. No. 24, to amend section 3 of chapter 194 laws of 1872, being an act to amend an act entitled "An act for the protection of stock from disease."

Also S. B. No. 25, to provide for the regulation of the running at large of animals.

Mr. Horton introduced S. B. No. 26, relating to the assessment and collection of taxes, and amendatory of section 98, chapter 107 laws of 1868.

Mr. St. Clair introduced S. B. No. 27, prescribing the place of payment of principal and interest of all bonds sold by the Permanent School Fund.

Mr. Robinson offered a resolution, calling on the Attorney General to inform the Senate whether, in his opinion, under existing laws, the counties are liable for school money, or their treasurers, are responsible for the same to the State, or whether additional legislation is necessary to secure the fund against loss.

Mr. Hopkins introduced S. B. No. 28, to amend article 3, chapter 180, laws of 1868, entitled an act relating to stock.

Mr. Finney introduced S. B. No. 29, providing for the protection of insectivorous birds.

Senate adjourned till 10 a. m. to-morrow.

HOUSE.

Discussion was had upon the appointment of subordinate clerks and pages, after which the House proceeded to the election of Assistant Chief Clerk, with the following result:

Hanback, 39; Jones, 31; Patterson, 15.

Mr. Hanback was declared elected.

The ballot for Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms resulted in the election of Jacob Moon, of Lyon county.

For Journal Clerk, W. E. Fomon, of Ellsworth county, was declared elected on 1st ballot.

For Door-keeper, Webb McCall, Smith county, was declared elected on the 1st ballot.

For Ist Asst. Doorkeeper, J. Carter, of Shawnee Co., was elected on 2d ballot.

The ballot for Postmaster resulted in the election of Col. Wm. Irving, of Harvey county, on 1st ballot.

House adjourned till 10 a. m. to-morrow.

SENATE.

TOPEKA, Jan. 14.

MORNING SESSION.
The following concurrent resolutions were introduced:

By Mr. Stephens, S. O. R. No. 2, relating to the lands of the Kansas Pacific Railway Company, and the right to tax the same.

By Mr. Bridges, S. O. R. No. 3, relating to appropriations to the different public institutions of the State.

The following Senate joint resolution was introduced:

Literary and Domestic.

EDITED BY MRS. M. W. HUDSON.

THE LOST BABIES.

Come, my wife, put down the bible,
Lay your glasses on the book,
Both of us are bent and aged—
Backward, mother, let us look,
This is still the same old homestead
Where I brought you long ago,
When the hair was bright with sunshine
That is now the winter's snow,
Let us talk about the babies
As we sit here all alone,
Such a merry troop of youngsters;
How we lost them one by one.

Jack, the first of all the party,
Came to us one winter's night,
Jack, you said, should be a parson,
Long before he saw the light.
Do you see that great cathedral,
Filled, the transept and the nave,
Hear the organ grandly pealing,
Watch the silken hangings wave:
See the priest in robes of office,
With the altar at his back—
Would you think that gifted preacher
Could be our own little Jack?

Then a girl, with curly tresses,
Used to climb upon my knee,
Like a little fairy princess,
Railing at the age of three.
With the years there came a wedding—
How your fond heart swelled with pride
When the lord of all the county
Cheer your baby for his bride!
Watch that stately carriage coming,
And the form reclining there—
Would you think that brilliant lady
Could be your own little Clara?

Then the last, a blue-eyed youngster—
I can hear him prattling now—
Such a strong and sturdy fellow,
With his broad and honest brow,
How he used to love his mother!
Ah! I see your trembling lip!
He is far off on the water,
Captain of a royal ship,
See the bronze upon his forehead,
Hear the voice of stern command—
That the boy who clung so fondly
To his mother's gentle hand?

Ah! my wife we've lost the babies,
Ours so long and ours alone;
What are we to these great people,
Stately men and women grown?
Seldom do we even see them:
Yes, a bitter tear drop starts,
As we sit here in the firelight,
Lonely hearts and lonely hearts
All their lives are full without us:
They'll stop long enough one day
Just to lay us in the church-yard,
Then they'll each go on their way.

CENTENNIAL NEWS AND GOSSIP.

We are fairly launched into the centennial year, but cannot say that we feel quite at home yet. A few years ago it looked so far off, we all expected to be rich by the time 1876 rolled around, all ready to go "home" and have a good time among the granite hills and the Alleghenies, in the Buckeye and the Old Bay States, and see the great cities of the East.

Some of us will realize our expectations, and many more of us will have to wait till the next anniversary, but all are interested in the great celebration; the excitement increases daily, and every item of news regarding the progress of preparations in Philadelphia, is read by old and young.

Everything they do in the vicinity of the honored city is called centennial. They wear centennial ruffs on their necks, and centennial heels on their shoes, and the demand for toilettes appropriate for tea-parties and Martha Washington receptions is great, everybody talks of brocade and minuetts. A friend has sent us descriptions of two very handsome costumes worn on such an occasion, which we give for the benefit of our readers.

The first was an underskirt of dark blue brocade, short enough in front to display the high-heeled white satin slippers and the beautiful "clocks" upon the fine silk stockings. A long train of pale blue brocade, lined with yellow satin, is worn over the dark blue underskirt. This train is looped, and quite bouffant at the back and sides, and caught here and there by knots of mingled blue and yellow satin ribbon. The long waisted corsetage has a low, square front, laced up with a yellow and blue silk cord, over a plastron or mock vest of yellow satin. An inside kerchief of finest, sheenest lawn, is worn, laid in soft folds, and fastened in the middle by a "broad knot" of which our poetical ancestors were wont to sing in terms of high-flown gallantry. The sleeves, half fitting, reaches the elbow, and a rich fall of old lace, falls over the arm. Long, loosely fitting gloves, of a cream tint, high rolled locks, well powdered, and a coquettish patch or two completes a bewitching toilette.

The next is of rose, colored brocade and white satin. The under petticoat of the white satin, quilted in diamonds, and dotted with tiny bunches of rose-buds. The train of rose colored brocade is lined with the palest shade of sky blue—the thin silk known in old times as sarsenet. This train is attached to the underskirt at the sides by loops of rose colored and pale blue ribbon and a cluster of buds. The corsetage is deeply pointed both back and front, and the square neck trimmed with a ruffle of old lace, while the inside kerchief is of the pale blue silk. Necklaces of balls of yellow gold with pearl cores. A cluster of half open roses is placed high up on the lofty powdered puffs of hair, and a knot of pale blue ribbon attached. The great fan of white satin has ivory sticks, "picked out" in gold, and a wattleau picture of dancing shepherds and shepherdesses on one side.

Mr. Henry Peterson has just finished a Centennial drama, which has been pronounced, by competent theatrical judges, to be full of merit, and certain of proving an overwhelming success when it is put on the stage. The play is in six acts, and is entitled "Helen."

We understand that the management of the Chestnut Street Theatre, of Philadelphia, have secured the play for representation during the Centennial season, and intend to produce it in a very elaborate and realistic manner, leaving nothing neglected which can make it a correct picture of life in Revolutionary days.

The scene is laid in Philadelphia and its vicinity during the occupation by the British in 1777-78. Among other famous local scenes,

Chew's house in Germantown and the old Walnut Street Jail will be truthfully represented on the stage, and also, a colonial parlor and kitchen. The costumes of 1776 will be reproduced with perfect fidelity; and, all the necessary accessories will be carefully attended to.

Theodore Thomas has accepted the post of musical director of the ceremonies for the opening of the Centennial Exhibition. There is probably no man in the country so admirably qualified to give eclat to that performance as Mr. Thomas. His orchestra is the finest ever gathered together in America and he is incomparably our best leader.

It is the intention of the Centennial Commissioners to invite each city of the country, where a Paid Fire Department exists, to send one company to the Centennial Exhibition to exhibit their modes of working, and the whole to comprise a fire brigade for the protection of the buildings.

Written expressly for the Kansas Farmer.

A LIFE BURDEN.

BY M. STRATTON BEERS.

PART I.

Back again to the home of my childhood! back to the dear old haunts of early years where as a boy I roamed like a young deer, wild and restless and free.

Many and many the day in which I have climbed the summit of this gray old hill with pockets filled with nuts or apples or may be cakes which Greasy, our old house-maid and cook would give me, and, boy fashion, have sat here upon this old stone and dreamed and munched, and munched and dreamed again. Sometimes I would happen to have guber nuts and maple taffy which I had purchased on my way to the hill, at the store down yonder with the sign you can see still, painted in large letters across the gable, although Time and his destructive agents, the wind and weather have so nearly obliterated the words, "Lisk and Martin, grocery," that it is with difficulty that you can make them out; in those olden days they used to be freshened up every year or so with new paint or fresh colors.

"Lisk!" that was "Uncle Cy," as every one called him to his face, and "old Skinner" as we boys, and many a man as well called him when we were not within his hearing. He was never in the grocery himself, he was what they call a silent-partner, furnishing capital, and receiving a share of the profits, but trusting the business to another man; and this other man was John W. Martin. He it was that waited on us fellows, and threw in the extra handful of chestnuts, or stick of candy, or—but no matter, only what wouldn't we boys have done for that man if he had asked us? We loved the very sight of his cheerful round face as he smiled at us, and whistled at, and hallooed to us, and said all manner of pleasant beautiful things, to us, as we clustered around the big box stove to warm our purple fingers upon the way to school.

And the girls, they all loved him too; never a project was set on foot by our school children, without consulting John W. Martin, as to the pro's and con's, and he it was that could tell us just how it could be done, and must be done. Everything always was done, when once his shoulder had been bent to the wheel, whether it was clubbing together and presenting Mrs. Cynthia A. Sargent, (our dear old teacher) with a gold pencil, and a Brussels carpet satchel, or joining together boys and girls and cutting and piling yonder Jonkin's wood (we boys doing the cutting and splitting, and bossing the girls while they did the piling and made ready the lunch which our mother's furnished;) or gladdening the heart of our dear old pastor Father Prescott by promising—

But I anticipate my story: Where was I when I started off down the hill to the old grocery? Oh, yes! "Lisk" never staid in the grocery, he spent all, at least the greater part of his waking moments, in yonder old brick factory, that is now almost tumbled down, and which you can see by the river. He owned it, and worked it, or worked the men, women and children he employed in it, almost to death, so "they said," and in those days and in that particular instance, "they say" was very nearly right I guess.

The little town I am looking at from the brow of this hill, was a flourishing one in the days of my earliest recollections, small tidy white houses mostly inhabited by people whose sons and daughters worked in the different factories. How old the town looks today; yonder stands the churches just as they stood then, only like myself looking much the worse for the wear and tear of scores of years.

Yonder, yes! there it is still, to the north, away from the quiet village somewhat, the house where Father Prescott lived so many years, and from whence he was carried to the cemetery, which you can also see by taking an oblique glance to the Westward. Just now there is pouring over it through a rift in the clouds, a glow of golden light, and in the distance it almost appears as if the white marble shafts, that rise here and there were moving hither and thither, but no! I closed my eyes one brief moment, and on looking again I see they do not move; they stand perfectly quiet, oh, so quiet! nothing moves them; they are waiting for the angel to sound the trumpet which shall waken into life the forms of the sleepers, at whose heads and feet, they have so silently and grimly watched and waited for years.

Yonder, see the river again! gleaming and sparkling, for all the world as it used to gleam and sparkle when I was a boy, and went occasionally on some clear Sabbath day, and stood upon its bank watching with wondering eyes and bated breath, while Father Prescott baptized in its waters some child of Christ who

thus publicly "took up its cross before men," and it ripples and gurgles, and makes sweet music just as it did on the day when the same dear man stood there in his baptismal robes and waited for us as we went, two and two into the water to him to be "buried in the likeness of Christ," until eighteen had gone down into the watery grave, and had come forth again rejoicing.

That was on my twentieth birth day, that sweet, sweet day so full of sacred memories! Do you fancy I shall ever forget it? Not that of all other birth-days, that have come to me and tarried a few brief hours of alternate light and darkness, and then given way to other days that were not birth-days, merely common every-day days.

Ursula Prescott was baptized on the same day. As I went out of the water, I met her going in; her face radiant with the new-born joy that had taken possession of her soul, and although I had known her since the day she was born, when my mother had held me up to peep over at the tiny lump of babyhood, that was wrapped in white flannel, and lay on the bed beside her mother; altho' that same mother of mine had on that eventful day softly lifted the tiny bundle down to within range of my wide-open astonished eyes, and there had pointed out a spot on each cheek where she said the angel that brought it down from heaven had kissed it before it flew away again; tho' for years I never saw the child without looking if still the impress remained which the angel's lips had made, and saw only what people in general call dimples; tho' for years and years we had been to school together; had oined hand in hand in the merry sports of childhood, and glided softly along up the rungs of the ladder of life—never once in all that time had I ever guessed, not only that Ursula Prescott was passing lovely, but also that I loved her with a love that was second only to my love for God.

It may seem strange to you my readers, that at such a time, and such a place, and under such solemn circumstances, I could have had so worldly a thought as that the girl I met going down into the baptismal grave was beautiful, and that I loved her. It struck me as strange and rather out of place I remember, but I thought it then and there, and never for a moment have I changed my mind and I thought too, as she came up out of the water, with the drops upon her golden hair glistening in the light of the setting sun, like so many brilliant and pearls, of the words my mother had so softly spoken to her dying one upon Ursula's birth-day. "Mrs. Prescott, do not grieve for the child, the angel has kissed it and it is a good omen," and I knew the angel who had kissed her at her birth was hovering over her then and would continue to hover over her always, until it should bear her soul back again to the great white throne.

The next morning I went away to college again, and was gone a year—that is a school year; and then came back to meet upon the platform of the depot Ursula Prescott, whither she had come as I afterwards learned to bid some friends farewell and a God-speed on their journey.

"Why Philip!" she said, and her voice sent my heart bounding with its sweet music. "You home to-day? I thought—"

But she went no farther toward the completion of her sentence, the hand she had so cordially and smilingly extended to me, I had clasped almost fiercely, and in the impulse of the moment had pressed it to my lips, looking into her blue eyes as I did so. She blushed and looked more than ever beautiful; I offered to carry the basket she held in her hand, she yielded it to me, but I think she did not know what she was doing until it was done. I walked clear to her father's gate with her; very common-places were the words that passed between us on my way thither; at parting I asked her if I might see her in the evening.

"Philip! old friend," she made answer, blushing again deeper than before, and it struck me then as if something like a spasm of pain passed over her countenance.

"I may as well tell you what you will hear in less than an hour, beside. I perhaps I am the one who should tell you first—in a couple of months I—that is—Fred Lisk and I are to be married. Will you not congratulate me?"

The first part of her words were said with eyes cast down to the soft green of the lawn, that sloped away to the right; the last with that lifted to mine with an expression half tenderness, half pity, which told me plainer than words could have done that she had divined my secret and had told me because she felt it her duty to tell me.

"FRED LISK! Ursula you can not mean—do you really mean this? Going to marry old Cy's adopted son! I see now—you are kind to tell me this yourself—but—Oh—Ursula!"

I leaned over against the fence and I think I moaned aloud; it had all seemed so sudden to me. In the year that had flown since I had known I loved Ursula, I had staid so hard, my love for her proving the incentive for the most intense labor; and never once had it occurred to me that other than myself could win her precious love, and I had hastened home at the earliest hour that I might tell her how very much and wholly I was hers, when lo, another than I had won her love; and I knew my case was hopeless.

How long I leaned there I do not know; until Ursula's voice so sad and full of pathos, fell upon my ear.

"Philip, come in and see my father, will you?"

"Not to-day, no, thank you! I came home just to see you Ursula, and I find you Fred

Lisk's betrothed. I cannot understand it—it yet, good bye Ursula.

I held out my hand to her, she took it in both her own, and laid her soft cheek all wet with tears upon it. "Poor Philip, you don't know how I pity you—and you were always such a good friend, I never dreamed of this though."

She let go my hand and I went away, mechanically to my own home and astonished them there both by my coming and my pale face. My mother would have it that I had studied too hard or was ill or both; how ill at heart none ever guessed but John W. Martin, who witnessed our meeting at the depot, and told me by the very shake of his hand when next I met him, that he pitied me, because he knew how hopeless my love was.

Weeks sped on, I tried to get command over myself but made almost an entire failure. Under pretence of hunting or fishing I would stray off to this old hill and seating myself on some ledge of rock, would sit by the hour, gazing off at the scenes below and beyond me, to the weary monotonous stretch of purple hills that trended Southward with the course of the purling river, until they blended with the blue of the sky; down at the busy village with its half dozen stores, its two or three taverns, its few churches; its two principal streets up and down which walked men and women, youths and maidens, all alike unmindful of me and the sorrow at my heart:

Most of all I looked at the white cottage where Ursula lived, and over at the factory building which one day would belong to Fred Lisk. With stolid interest I watched the rapid building of a handsome brick cottage near the river, and near Father Prescott's also, which was to be the home of Fred Lisk and his beautiful bride.

Many the time I have watched Fred as he would come briskly from the new house to Ursula's home bound up the steps, and with my pocket glass, I could see them, walking together.

But one day from my position on the rock I saw Fred come out of the factory on to the landing at the head of the stairs which led directly into his father's office, lean over the railing and with clasped hands stand without scarce a motion for the space of some fifteen minutes or half an hour; then he stood erect doubled up his fist, shook it menacingly in the air, and strode into the office again.

TO BE CONTINUED.

DYSPEPSIA.

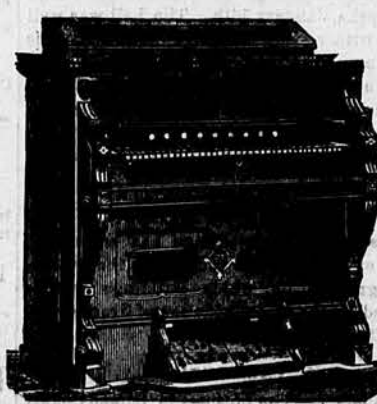
The most universal cause of dyspepsia is eating too often, too fast, and too much. The general rules should be:

- 1—Eat thrice a day.
- 2—Not an atom between meals.
- 3—Nothing after two o'clock but a piece of cold bread and butter and one cup of hot drink.
- 4—Spread half an hour at least in taking each meal.
- 5—Cut up all meats and hard food in pea sized pieces.
- 6—Never eat enough to cause the slightest uncomfortable sensation afterward.
- 7—Never work or study hard within half an hour of eating.

The most universal and infallible indication that a person is becoming dyspeptic is some uncomfortable sensation coming on uniformly after each meal, whether that be in the stomach, throat or anywhere else. The formation of wind in the stomach, indicated by eructation, belchings, or otherwise, demonstrates that dyspepsia is fixing itself in the system. Then there is only one course to pursue, and that is infallible; eat less and less at each meal, until no wind is generated and no other uncomfortable sensation is experienced in any part of the body. No medicine ever cured confirmed dyspepsia; eating plain food regularly and living out of doors industriously, will cure most cases.—Dr. Hall's Journal.

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Cattle, Hogs and Sheep. **P. O.** address, East
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of the
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Take pleasure in filling your names as a Solicitor of Pat-
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1968-1969

GROWING UP.

Oh, to keep them still around us, baby darlings, fresh and pure,
"Mother's" smile their pleasure crowning,
"Mother's" kiss their sorrow's cure;
Oh, to keep the waxen touches, sunny curls
and radiant eyes,
Pattering feet and eager prattle—all young
life's lost Paradise.

One bright head above the other, tiny hands
that clung and clasped,
Little forms that close enfolding, all of love's
best gifts were grasped;
Sporting in the summer sunshine, glancing
round the winter hearth,
Bidding all the bright world echo with their
fearless, careless mirth.

Oh, to keep them, how they gladdened all the
path from day to day;
What gay dreams we fashioned of them, as in
rosy sleep they lay;
How each broken word was welcomed, how
each struggling thought was hailed,
As each dark went floating seaward, love-be-
decked and fancy-sailed.

Gliding from our jealous watching—gliding
from our clinging hold,
Lo! the brave leaves bloom and burgeon; lo!
the shy sweet buds unfold;
Fast to lip, and cheek, and tresses, steals the
maiden's bashful joy;
Fast the frank, bold man's assertion tones the
accents of the boy.

Neither love nor longing keeps them; soon in
other shape than ours
Those young hands will seize their weapons,
build their castle, plant their flowers;
Soon a fresher hope will brighten the dear
eyes we trained to see;
Soon a clearer love than ours in those weaken-
ing hearts will be.

So it is, and well it is so; fast the river nears
the main;
Backward yearnings are but idle; dawning
never glows again;
Slow and sure the distance deepens, slow and
sure the links are rent,
Let us pluck our autumn roses, with their
sober bloom content.

There is a grate mummy rules to make married
life comfortable, but the golden one is this:
Go slow, and give each other half of the
road. This rule is as simple and easy as milk-
ing a cow on the right side, and will be found
as useful as life to avoid hot journals and dri-
azles.—*Josh Billings.*

A little schoolgirl asked her teacher what
was meant by "Mrs. Grundy." The teacher
replied that it meant "the world." Some days
afterward the teacher asked the geography
class to which this little "bud of promise" be-
longed. "What is a zone?" After some hesita-
tion the little girl brightened up and re-
plied, "I know; it's a belt around Mrs. Grundy's
waist."

"So you wouldn't take me to be twenty?"
said a rich heiress to an Irish gentleman, while
dancing the polka. "What would you take me
for, then?" "For better or worse," replied
the son of the Emerald Isle.

"I want a wife," said a Chicago man. She
must be a good-looking blonde of an affec-
tionate disposition, must have a superior edu-
cation, including a good knowledge of music.
No "Maiden's Prayer" or "Silver Threads"
kind of a girl will do.

Bret Harte commenced life as a child, and
was a clerk, a schoolmaster, a gold miner, a
printer, an editor and a poet before he became
of age.

Wash's Harness on which Uncle Sam's Harness
is used will last fifty per cent. longer than
those on which neat-foot, fish and other cheap
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Bake, Boil and Boast equal to any Wood Stove,
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Also Berkshire pigs bred from imported and pre-
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P. S. Persons desiring to visit the farm, by calling
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Offers for sale at reasonable rates a large and fine stock
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Pigs, \$15 to \$25 each. Also, a number of

SHORT-HORN BULLS,
of good Herd Book Pedigree. The above stock is
offered at prices farmers can pay in these hard times.
For further particulars write to
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Newark, Knox Co., Missouri.

G. W. STUBBLEFIELD & CO.,



Importers and Breeders of
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Office with Aaron Livingston, Bloomington, Ill.
Imported stock for sale on reasonable terms.
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The Herd embraces Young Mary's, Young Phyllis,
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is E. R. at head of the herd. Correspondence
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The Lands of The

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The Railroad is constructed and in operation from
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Particular attention is called to the large tracts of
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the most fertile and well watered hard-wood lands in
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finest hard maple; soil, black sandy loam, and abounding
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are being rapidly settled, and the lumbering business
in the vicinity will afford to farmers a first-rate mar-
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For pine lands, one-fourth down, and remainder in
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will be given if desired.

For title of lands, further information, or purchase,
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open to actual settlers, on long time. Improved
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the finest wheat crop of all the States for 1875. Whole
fields run from 30 to 40 bushels to the acre. Other
crops promise large returns. Address
ROBERTS & LINZEE, Council Grove, Kan.

KANSAS LAND AND IMMIGRANT AS-

SOCIATION.

Grand Real Estate Distribution

AT ATCHISON, KANSAS, MARCH 26, 1876.

2,664 Pieces of Property, Valued at \$770,800.00.



[The above represents "Price Villa," with 12 acres.]

THE KANSAS LAND AND IMMIGRANT ASSOCIATION.

IS an association composed of Capitalists and Business
Men, residing in Kansas, duly incorporated by the
authority of the State, with a Capital Stock of One Million
Dollars, divided into Two Hundred Thousand Shares
at Five Dollars Each.

The Charter of said Association is for the Term of
Twenty-One Years, and confers upon its incorporators and
their successors full power and authority to transact busi-
ness in any of the States and Territories of the United
States for the following purposes: the promotion of im-
migration; the organization and maintenance of Boards
of Trade and business exchanges; the accumulation and
loan of funds; the erection of buildings, and the pur-
chase and sale of Real Estate.

In furtherance of these general purposes, and more es-
pecially to encourage immigration to Kansas and to aid
in the erection of a City Hall and Board of Trade Rooms
in the city of Atchison, the "KANSAS LAND AND IM-
MIGRANT ASSOCIATION" has, in its corporate name and cap-
ital, purchased the 2,664 pieces of Real Estate named
and valued at \$770,800.00 and will, on MARCH 26th,
1876, at Corinthian Hall, in the city of Atchison, make a
Distribution of the same.

Every share, wherever and by whomsoever held, will
be equally represented in the Distribution, and will be en-
titled to any one piece of said property that may be
awarded to the same. But the particular manner of such
award will be decided upon by a majority of the stock-
holders present at the time in person or by proxy and the
Members of the Association will not directly or indirectly
vote or participate in the meetings of said shareholders
in the deciding the same.

NO. OF PIECES.

1-"PRICE VILLA"..... 25,000.00
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3-"HALL'S RESIDENCES"..... 27,000.00
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5-"OF 160 ACRES EACH"..... 47,000.00
6-"OF 80 ACRES EACH"..... 23,500.00
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8-"ATCHISON CITY AND EAST ATCHISON LOTS"..... 218,000.00

2,664 PIECES OF PROPERTY VALUED AT \$770,800.00

PRICES OF SHARES.

The price of a single share is FIVE DOLLARS, but to
insure a speedy sale of all the shares and the Distribution
of our Real Estate on March 26th, 1876, WITHOUT POST-
PONEMENT, we offer the following liberal rates to clubs
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22 Shares for..... 100.00
33 Shares for..... 150.00
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77 Shares for..... 350.00
88 Shares for..... 400.00
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Active and reliable agents wanted. References required.
Liberal commission allowed. Circulars and terms
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Atchison, Kansas.

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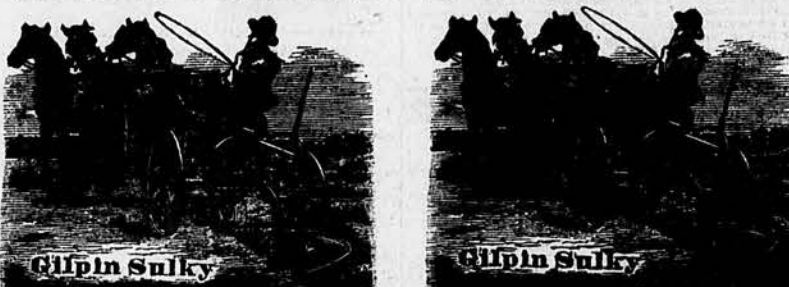
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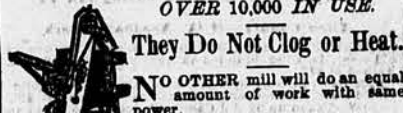
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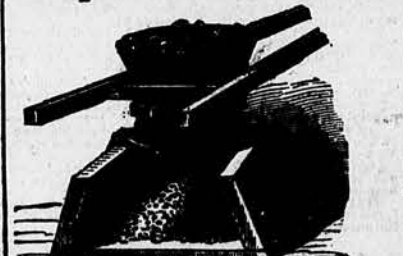
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